

## GI SPECIAL 5F2:

### NO MORE: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW



U.S. soldiers receive medical assistance from medics of the 299th F.S.B. 2BCT in Riva Ridge AID station in a military base in Baghdad May 25, 2007. (Eduardo Munoz/Reuters)

**“The President Should Be Arrested And Charged For The Murder Of Every One Of Our Sons And Daughters That Die Out There,” He Said:  
“He’s Killing All Of Them. It’s Criminal”  
“There Are No Weapons Of Mass Destruction”**

# Shock And Anger Fuel Family's Grief For Texas GI Killed In Iraq

05/19/2007 Nancy Martinez, Express-News

Army Staff Sgt. Anselmo Martinez III, 26, was overdue for a two-week leave from Iraq to return home to Robstown when he was killed with two other soldiers, grief-stricken family members confirmed Saturday.

The armored vehicle in which they were riding ran over a roadside bomb near Baqouba, Iraq.

Martinez, a 1998 graduate of Robstown High School, was stationed at Fort Hood, where his wife, Christina, and two daughters live. Martinez had five siblings.

His mother Diane Martinez said a military officer and chaplain broke the news Friday just before noon. She was watching television in bed when they knocked at her door. She hadn't spoken to him since Thanksgiving and that conversation was quick and the delay in the phone call made it a tough conversation. Some things she said he never heard because of the technical problems. Now, it's too late.

**It's too late for him to get granted the leave he had been promised since May, the leave that was rescheduled twice.**

**"He really wanted to come home," Diane Martinez said as she drove to Fort Hood late Saturday night to visit his wife and children. "One of his friends offered his leave but the commanding officer said no."**

Martinez kept in contact with his family through the Internet, mostly on MySpace, where he said he was happily married with two daughters and that he'd like to meet, "Clint Eastwood 'Go Ahead, Make My Day.'"

Several messages from his wife all end with the words "I miss you and I love you."

A Feb. 4 message from his wife reads: "Hola papa. I feel so bad that you couldn't be here today for baby's birthday."

It was his family that he joined the military for, his mother Diane Martinez said. He worked a stint at Whataburger after graduating from high school and then at Hertz car rental at the Corpus Christi International Airport.

"It's so hard to find a job nowadays," Diane Martinez said. "That was what he had to do to support his family, so he decided to join."

Anselmo's uncle, Alfredo Martinez, who remembers fishing with Anselmo when he was a young boy and as an adult, was angry Saturday.

"He was a good boy, he never got in trouble, never did drugs," he said. "Everybody loved him."

“The family is suffering and mourning,” Alfredo Martinez said.

**“I think the president should be arrested and charged for the murder of every one of our sons and daughters that die out there,” he said.**

**“There are no weapons of mass destruction.**

**“He’s killing all of them. It’s criminal.”**

Diane Martinez said she still couldn’t believe he’s dead.

“I keep asking them how they know he’s dead. If they are sure it’s him,” she said. “I still cannot believe it. I am so proud of him. He wanted to come home, but he stayed there and he did his job.”

**MORE**

## **Sgt. Anthony J. Schober Killed In Iraq: “His Grandfather Said He Was Unenthusiastic About The U.S. Role In Iraq, Where, He Said, American Soldiers Were Clearly Unwanted”**

5.19.07 By MARY CALLAHAN, THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

The darkest fears that a Rohnert Park couple battled for six days while thousands of soldiers a world away searched for their missing grandson were crystallized in a single phone call and, finally, definitive news out of Iraq.

The young man they loved was dead.

Army Sgt. Anthony J. Schober, 23, had not been among three soldiers believed kidnapped by al-Qaida operatives in a weekend ambush south of Baghdad after all.

He’d been dead all along but left unrecognizable in the firefight that killed four others -- burned so badly only DNA testing would prove who he was.

The uncertainty that had rendered grandparents Leona and Robert Asper emotionally raw and exhausted has turned to grieving for Schober and for experiencing for themselves the pain of war.

“How do you even begin to describe this sense of trying to live with that uncertainty and knowing that everything they’ve seen on the television previously has never been good news?” said Newt Kerney, the couple’s spokesman and pastor. “At this point they tried to simply hold on to each other, and when the call came, it was just -- it was devastating.”

The Aspers had taken in Schober and his mother, Roberta -- their daughter -- when she divorced his father in the 1990s, sharing with the boy his early school years, camping trips and three years of formative life, said Kerney, pastor at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church.

They were fiercely proud, they said in a written statement Friday, “of him, his courage, care for his men, and his service to those who counted on him.”

Schober attended John Reed and Gold Ridge elementary schools while living in Rohnert Park, then resettled in Carson City, Nev., when his mother remarried. He was adopted by his stepfather, Edward Schober, who, like Roberta Schober, still lives there, though they are now divorced.

Their son left school and joined the Army in 2001 at age 17, moved by the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and the Pentagon, his adoptive father said at a Friday news conference in Carson City.

“I asked whether he was sure about this and really wanted to do it. He said yes, so I signed the papers,” Edward Schober told reporters in Nevada.

Schober was serving with the 10th Mountain Division’s Company D, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment -- nicknamed “the Polar Bears” because of the unit’s World War I-era service in Siberia. He was based in Fort Drum, N.Y.

He was on his third tour of duty in Iraq. He once had been blasted out of a Humvee and wounded, requiring his jaw to be wired shut for about a month, though his injury was not serious enough for him to be sent home, Robert Asper told the Associated Press. Kerney said Asper told him Schober had three Purple Hearts. He served in Iraq from April 2003 to March 2004, January 2005 to June 2005, and had returned again in July.

His father said he was scheduled to leave Iraq in October and hoped for an assignment to Italy.

**Though Edward Schober said his son was contemplating an Army career, his grandfather said he was unenthusiastic about the U.S. role in Iraq, where, he said, American soldiers were clearly unwanted.**

Army officials said Schober was leading a two-vehicle patrol Saturday along a palm-lined rural road near Youssifiyah, 12 miles south of Baghdad. Their mission was to catch insurgents planting roadside bombs at night.

They had been in position for eight to 12 hours when insurgents crept up and cut through some concertina wire to begin their attack, military officials said. Four soldiers, including Schober, and an Iraqi translator were killed in the firefight.

Three others were apparently taken captive and are being hunted by 6,000 U.S. and Iraqi troops, an effort the Aspers said provides some consolation and hope.

The couple said in their written statement that they are praying “for those three families who continue to undergo the trauma of not knowing what has become of their sons.”

The Aspers learned their grandson was dead Thursday night in a call from his biological father, Mark Webb, of Indianapolis, who had been notified by the Army.

Robert Asper said Webb had gotten a call Sunday saying his son was among the three missing soldiers, though officially the military listed him as “whereabouts unknown” until Friday afternoon.

“They assumed Anthony was missing,” Asper said Friday before turning questions over to Kerney. “They did a lot of assuming.”

**Asper has been critical of the Army’s decision to send eight unaccompanied men into an isolated, dangerous region, and has faulted the Bush administration generally for stranding U.S. soldiers in “the middle of a civil war” and for the “waste of young lives.”**

Their grandson’s death, and those of the other three soldiers, “are tragic reminders of the continuing horror of the war,” the Aspers said in their statement.

It remains unclear to which city Schober’s remains will be returned, and funeral arrangements have not been made, Kerney said.

## **MORE**

**“They Pushed Him And Pushed Him, And He Kept Telling Them No”**

**“He Just Didn’t Want To Be There Anymore”**

**Explosion Kills Essex Man In Iraq**

May 22, 2007 By Julie Scharper, Baltimore Sun

Several weeks ago, Army Spc. Casey W. Nash came home on leave from Iraq to visit his family in Essex and Middle River.

He watched sports with his father, worked on his sister’s car and drove his beloved red-and-white Chevrolet S-10 Xtreme pickup truck. A quiet man, the 22-year-old said little

about his time in the combat zone, but he did make this point: Six months into his second tour of duty in Iraq, he was ready to leave the Army and return home for good.

That visit was the last time his family saw him.

On Friday, Specialist Nash and two other soldiers were killed in Tahir, Iraq, by an improvised explosive device. The others were Sgt. Anselmo Martinez III, 26, of Robstown, Texas, and Spc. Joshua G. Romero, 19, of Crowley, Texas.

**'He just didn't want to be there anymore,' his father, Lewis Nash, said yesterday, tears welling in his eyes.**

Specialist Nash enlisted in the Army in February 2003, less than a year after graduating from Eastern Technical High School, where he played football.

A fire support specialist, his duties included mapping coordinates and driving a Humvee, his father said. In October 2005, Specialist Nash was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas, according to an Army spokesman.

In October, Specialist Nash was sent to Iraq for the second time after an earlier 15-month deployment.

**According to relatives, he had originally signed up for four years with the Army, but the term of his enlistment was extended. The time spans of both of his tours in Iraq also were lengthened, they said.**

**He told his family that he felt that he was being pressured to re-enlist.**

**'They pushed him and pushed him, and he kept telling them no,' his father said.**

Born in Pasadena, Texas, Casey Nash moved to Middle River with his family when he was a boy and settled in the same small white house where his father had been raised. As a child, he shot baskets through the weatherbeaten hoop that still stands in front of that home.

Family connections run deep in the neighborhood. Cousins live across the street, and Nash attended Victory Villa Elementary, Middle River Middle, and Eastern Technical, as his father had done.

A talented athlete, he was coached by his father in Little League baseball. In high school, he played center and guard on the varsity football team. Nash's football coach, Marc Mesaros, choked back tears yesterday as he recalled the offensive lineman for his quiet leadership on the varsity team, brutal honesty and 'get-it-done' attitude.

'He was a John Wayne kind of kid,' said Mr. Mesaros, adding that he exchanged e-mails with Specialist Nash during his first tour in Iraq.

Mr. Mesaros, who teaches computer graphics and Web design, described Specialist Nash's senior year - when he was injured in one of the team's first scrimmages - as an illustration of his work ethic.

'He overcame a devastating ankle injury, and after missing most of the season, he finished the year with a strong performance in our final game,' Mr. Mesaros said. Though injured, Nash kept showing up for practice to support his teammates.

While he was in high school, Casey Nash moved with his mother, Sandra Nash, and sister, Sara Nash, to a home in Essex. Yesterday, his pickup and yellow motorcycle were parked in front of that house. A yellow ribbon was tied to the tree.

An uncle, Tony Edge, said that Specialist Nash's mother was too upset to comment. Yesterday was her birthday, he added.

Relatives said that they were surprised when Nash announced that he was joining the military and offered little explanation for his choice.

He sent back photos from Iraq of giant spiders that he had caught in a jar and a tipped Humvee from which he had escaped. He told his father that he once pulled a buddy out a burning Jeep.

During his most recent visit, Specialist Nash stayed in his basement bedroom in his mother's home that he had outfitted with a stereo, refrigerator and video game console.

He played pool with his father and another uncle, Fred Nash, and hung out with his girlfriend, whom he had dated since high school.

A photo from the visit shows Specialist Nash, a tall man with a solid build, light blue eyes and blond hair, smiling next to his girlfriend.

While he was visiting, he was shaken when he found out that some buddies in Iraq had been killed.

'He was upset because he felt like he had let them down,' his father said.

He had told his father that he was frustrated that his military service had been extended. He had hoped to pursue a career with computers after leaving the Army or join the ironworks company where his father is a supervisor.

Lewis Nash, 46, said that the military has provided little specific information about how his son died, whether the casket could be open or closed for the funeral, or even when his body would arrive.

Specialist Nash had been slated for a promotion to sergeant, but the paperwork had been held up. Yesterday, military representatives told his family that the promotion had been approved, his father said.

Plans for a memorial service are pending.

**MORE**

# **Scott County Native Killed In Iraq: “Get Our Men And Women Back Home As Speedily As Possible So Other People Won’t Have To Go Through This”**



May 23, 2007 By Janelle MacDonald, WAVE

(SCOTTSBURG, Ind.) -- In the middle of their grief, the family of fallen southern Indiana soldier Sergeant Robert Joe Montgomery has a message they want to share.

Joe grew up in Scottsburg, in Scott County, Indiana. His mother and most of his other family still live there. WAVE 3 Investigator Janelle MacDonald sat down with them Wednesday, the same day the military broke the news.

Scottsburg isn't all that big: a little more than 6,000 people. Until Tuesday, no one in the whole county had been killed in Iraq.

Joe Montgomery, Mayor Bill Graham's nephew, is now the first.

A grieving Gail Bond is angry about her son's death. "I am mad. To take a young man, with three children, and blow him up."

Gail's voice was hoarse from her expressions of grief over her son's death.

Her anger, however, is not hard to hear.

**“To all the officials that are running our country: I just want to say, please, put the politics aside. Democrats quit being Democrats and Republicans quit being Republicans, and join hands to get our men and women back home as speedily as possible so other people won't have to go through this.**

**“The situations over there are worsening daily and I don't want -- I'm an old lady, I shouldn't have to bury one of my kids. I also do not think the Congress should take a vacation this year, while our sons, men and women are fighting a war. This**



**is not a presidential election war. Work as one to get our people home safe and sound and as soon as possible.”**

The Army told the family Joe was killed when his unit was looking for buried explosives in the Anbar province in Baghdad.

Joe’s uncle, Scottsburg Mayor Bill Graham, told us his nephew was killed by a booby trap. “There was a little trip wire sticking up out of the ground, and it was after dark, and he hit that trip wire.”

With not one, but two sons serving in Iraq, Gail always knew this could happen. She just never really believed it.

“It never seems like it’s going to be your kids,” Gail said. “And I’m devastated.”

Gail called Joe her miracle baby -- she found out she was carrying him one day after she buried her husband.

Graham says “Joe was born a few months after his father was killed, so he’s always been very special to our family.”

Graham said Joe idolized his big brother. “His older brother, Micah, served in the Army for quite awhile and Joe wanted to follow those footsteps.”

“Joey was extremely proud to serve,” Graham said. “And I’d hate to see anything done to tarnish his proudness of serving his country.”

Now Micah is bringing his brother home to his mother, and he’ll likely be laid to rest in the cemetery one block from her house.

“They’re on their way home now, I know,” Gail said.

Joe leaves behind three kids, ages nine, seven and two, along with his wife, Missy. They’re in Alaska, where both Joe and Micah were based, but the family expects them to come home to Scottsburg soon.

There’s a flagpole in front of Gail’s house, and the flag has been lowered to half mast. Joe’s friends put it before daylight Wednesday, right after the Army Chaplain who delivered the news of Joe’s death left.

**MORE**

**“His Family Is Angry About The War That Claimed Aaron’s Life”  
“They’re Also Calling On Others To Protest The Continuing Conflict”**

# **“We Need To Learn When Enough Is Enough”**



May 21, 2007 WVEC

A 19-year-old soldier from Hampton was killed just four weeks into his first tour of duty in Iraq, his family tells 13News.

Aaron Gautier was beginning a mission outside Baghdad when his vehicle came under enemy fire and encountered a roadside bomb. The Army gunner died from his injuries in a Baghdad hospital.

**His family is angry about the war that claimed Aaron’s life.**

**“He wanted an exciting career in the Army but recently became disenchanted,” said Gautier’s father, Dan. “We need to learn when enough is enough,” he said of the war in Iraq.**

**They’re also calling on others to protest the continuing conflict.**

Gautier, born in Hampton and a 2005 Bethel High School graduate, was recently married and was based at Fort Lewis, Washington.

“You find yourself staring at the wall and not crying and you kinda wondering, ‘Why am I not crying, my son just died in Iraq,’” said Dan Gautier.

His family is in a fog, “zombie mode,” as his father calls it. They are not yet able to accept that the boy who loved music, NASCAR and video games is gone.

“I had a feeling when I saw him last month at his uncle’s funeral that I’d never see him again. Just watching him walk away; that’s the last memory I have,” said Gautier’s aunt, Valarie Gautier-Conlan.

9-11 encouraged him to join the Army, a branch he loved so much he tattooed it on his arm.

"It's a roller coaster of emotions, disbelief, shock, hoping a mistake has been made," said Dan Gautier.

Gautier will be buried in Hampton, but details have not been finalized.

"The reality hasn't sunk in yet," said Gautier's grandmother, Pat LeNorman. "I'm still waiting for him to call me. His life was snuffed out."

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

# **May Is Third-Deadliest Month For U.S. Troops In Iraq War**

May 31 by Tom Bowman, All Things Considered [Excerpt]

At least 122 American troops died in Iraq in May, making it the third deadliest month for the United States since the war began.

Earlier in the spring, the improvised bombs accounted for about 60 percent of American deaths. Now it's more than 80 percent. In addition to the number of deaths, the number of wounded is increasing at a greater monthly rate than earlier in the war, Cordesman said.

**And more than half of those wounded suffer wounds serious enough that they can't return to duty.**

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## **Baghdad IED Kills 2, Wounds 2 U.S. Soldiers**

May 31, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070531-04

BAGHDAD – Multi-National Division – While conducting combat operations in the southwest section of the Iraqi capital, two Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers were killed when an improvised explosive device detonated May 30.

Two other Soldiers were also wounded in the attack.

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## **U.S. Soldier Killed in Baghdad**

02 June 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 200700601-05

BAGHDAD – Baghdad Soldier was killed when a patrol was attacked with small arms fire in the eastern section of the Iraqi capital May 31.

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## **U.S. Soldier Killed Near Zawiyah**

02 June 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070601-07

BAGHDAD – One MNC-I Soldier was killed by small arms fire at approximately noon June 1 in the vicinity of Zawiyah.

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## **Baghdad Soldier Dies Of Wounds From IED**

May 31, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070531-05

BAGHDAD – While conducting combat operations northwest of the Iraqi capital, a Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldier was seriously wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated May 28. The Soldier was taken to the Combat Support Hospital but died of wounds May 29.

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## **Kentucky Soldier Killed In Iraq**

June 1, 2007 The Associated Press.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. -- A 20-year-old southern Kentucky soldier was killed in Iraq when the Humvee he was riding in was hit by an explosive device

The father of Private First Class Joshua Moore says his son was killed this week in the Baghdad area. Moore was from Logan County.

Jeff Moore said his son enlisted in the Army shortly after graduating from Logan County High School in 2005. He was stationed in Germany until deploying to Iraq about a year ago. Jeff Moore said his son believed in the U.S. mission in Iraq. He said his son felt that American soldiers were doing good in the war-torn country.

Joshua Moore had returned home recently on a 15-day furlough, and during that time he purchased a 2005 GMC truck. It was the first time his family had seen him in a year.

During his time home, Joshua Moore worked on his truck and spoke with local school children.

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## Arkansas Soldier Dies In Roadside Bomb Attack

June 01, 2007 (AP)

A relative says an Arkansas soldier serving in Iraq died on Memorial Day after a roadside bomb exploded near the Bradley fighting vehicle he was in.

Specialist Zachary Baker of Vilonia died along with five others from a team racing to the scene of a U.S. helicopter crash, according to his stepfather, Ken Wilcher, Jr. said. Baker served in the First Calvary out of Fort Hood, Texas and was 24 years old.

His stepfather says Baker is survived by his wife, Christina, and a seven-year-old son.

Overall, a count by The Associated Press shows 45 military members from Arkansas have died in the Iraq war. Two Arkansans have died in Afghanistan.

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## Pembroke Soldier Dies Of Iraq Injuries



U.S. Army Pfc. Matthew Bean of Pembroke, Mass. Bean, was shot in the head May 19, 2007, by a sniper in Iraq and died May 31, 2007 of his wounds. Bean, 22, was removed from life support at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. (AP Photo/Bean Family via WCVB-TV)

May 31, 2007 (AP)

PEMBROKE A 22-year-old soldier from Pembroke is the latest Massachusetts native to die from fighting in Iraq.

Private First Class Matthew Bean was shot in the head by a sniper on May 19th during a door-to-door search for captured U-S soldiers.

He was flown to Germany for surgery and then to Walter Reed Medical Center on May 23rd.

Bean was removed from life support yesterday and died early today. He was a member of the Army's 10th Mountain Division and a 2003 graduate of Silver Lake Regional High School in Kingston.

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## San Marcos Soldier Killed By Baghdad Roadside Bomb



Specialist Michael Davis was killed Monday in Iraq. Photos From Taryn Davis

May 24, 2007 Julie Simon, Reporting; (CBS 42)

A Central Texas man is among the most recent casualties in Iraq.

Specialist Michael Davis, 22, was among the three soldiers killed Monday after a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle.

Davis graduated in 2002 from San Marcos High School.

Davis' friends say they will always remember the guy who they refer to as their 'rock.'

"I was always sure he was coming back," friend Matt Sustaita said. "I had no doubt in my mind."

But Davis is not coming home.

Sustaita, one of Davis' closest friends is worried about Taryn, Davis' wife. The two were high school sweethearts.

“He loved her with all his heart and she loved him just as fiercely,” Sustaita said. “They had the kind of love that you don’t see every often these days.”

Davis was known for being quiet, but steady.

Susataita says he was a dedicated and capable soldier.

“There was no one personality you could put on him because he could fill up all of them,” Sustaita said. “His friends looked at him almost like a rock. He was always optimistic about everything no matter what it was.”

Susataita said Davis was due to be in Iraq for another 10 months.

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## **UNREMITTING HELL ON EARTH; BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW**



Thanks to Kevin Ramirez, CCCO. He writes: Pics showing what happens when US bases get mortared/rocketed. Obviously taken by a GI. I found them online, and don't know who took them.

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## **Eight U.S. Soldiers Wounded By Baghdad Car Bomb**

May 31, 2007 Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory RELEASE No. 20070531-07

BAGHDAD – A car bomb detonated at a temporary vehicle checkpoint in the Adhamiyah District of the Iraqi capital, wounding eight U.S. May 30.

At approximately 4 p.m., Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, were manning the checkpoint near a village in the Suleikh area of Adhamiyah when a car approached. The driver detonated explosives hidden inside the car, blowing himself up in the process.

Six of the Soldiers received minor wounds and were returned to duty. Two others are in stable condition receiving medical treatment.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Utah Soldier Among Those Killed In Chopper Crash**

May 31, 2007 By Doug Ware, (KUTV)

SALT LAKE CITY - A Utah man was among five U.S. soldiers killed in Afghanistan on Wednesday, when an Army CH 47-Chinook helicopter crashed – reportedly shot down by Taliban militants.

A source has told 2News that one of the U.S. servicemen killed was Sgt. Jesse Blamires, 25, of South Jordan.

Blamires, an active duty member of the Army's 82nd Airborne Bravo unit, was married and had two young children, ages 5 and nine-months.

"I was honored to have him serve. He served with honor, distinction," said his father, Craig Blamires.

Blamires signed up for military service three years ago. His family says he was particularly interested in helicopters and worked his way up from a mechanic, to a gunner and finally to the position of crew chief.

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### **Foreign Occupation Soldier Killed Near Mehtarlam, 3 Wounded; Nationality Not Announced**



6.1.07 (AFP)

A roadside bomb struck a vehicle of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in eastern Afghanistan, killing one soldier and wounding three others, an Afghan working for the alliance said.

The blast was on the outskirts of Mehtarlam about 100 kilometres (60 miles) east of Kabul, said an employee of the alliance's press office for eastern Afghanistan.

"One of the soldiers was killed and three were wounded in the blast," said the man, named only Rahmanullah.

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## **Assorted Resistance Action**

31/05/2007 AFX News & June 1, 2007 (AP) & AFP

Insurgents attacked a police post in Nuristan province, sparking a gun battle that killed a policeman and a militant and wounded four police, provincial governor Tamim Nuristani said.

A Taliban ambush of an Afghan police convoy today left 16 policemen dead and another six wounded in Shahjoi district of southeastern Zabul, the interior ministry said.

The attack on the three-vehicle convoy happened at 8.30 am while it was on its way south from Kabul on the busy main highway, a ministry spokesman said.

It was one of the deadliest on the fledgling force, which is regularly hit by ambushes and roadside bombs in an insurgency led by the extremist Taliban movement that was driven from government in 2001.

The district centre in western Farah province, which is on the Iranian border, came under "heavy attack."

In the southeastern province of Khost, small bombs exploded before dawn Friday outside the houses of six government officials and a man working as a translator for the U.S. military, said Wazir Pacha, a police spokesman. No one was hurt.

The Taliban fighters attacked the home of a police official in Zurmat district of Paktia province late Thursday, said Ghulam Dastagir, deputy provincial police chief.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

# **56% Of Americans Don't Support The War: 40% Of Americans "Agreeing With The Wish To Simply "Pull The Troops Out/End It"**

May 31, 2007 By E&P Staff [Excerpts]

NEW YORK A unique survey question posed by the Gallup organization reveals just how far the president and Congress -- and most newspaper editorial pages -- appear to stand from the wishes of the American public on getting out of Iraq.

**Gallup, in a report today, said it posed the question: If you had 15 minutes with President Bush in the Oval Office what would you tell him to do about Iraq?**

**The majority (56%) said they would urgently urge him to focus on getting out of Iraq, with the highest number (nearly 4 in 10) agreeing with the wish to simply "pull the troops out/end it" and others backing other exit ideas.**

"The president maintains the loyalty of a smaller group of Americans -- one in four -- who are supportive of his current actions or would even want him to be more aggressive."

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## **Ohio Suicide Soldiers Given Wrong Equipment To Train For Iraq**

May 31, 2007 Associated Press, COLUMBUS, Ohio

Soldiers in the Ohio National Guard are not being trained with the same equipment they would use if deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, according to the state's adjutant general.

"It's about confidence in soldiers, and the soldiers need to train on the right pieces of equipment so they have confidence in the mission we're asking them to do," Maj. Gen. Gregory Wayt said Wednesday.

For example, Wayt said some Army Guard troops will begin three weeks of training starting June 9 using standard-issue M-16 rifles when they would be using shorter, lighter M-4 rifles in the field.

The soldiers also can't train with the type of night-vision goggles or armored vehicles they would use in combat, the Guard said.

The Pentagon has said the soldiers will have the M-4 rifles and other equipment they will use in the field when they report to mobilization stations for training before they are deployed.

But Wayt said the soldiers should have as much training as possible on the equipment they will use.

**Oklahoma Guard spokesman Lieutenant Colonel John Altebaumer says his unit has a shortage of body armor, M-4s and night-vision goggles, and no up-armored Humvees.**

**He says regular Humvees have canvas doors or none at all, while the others have heavy metal doors.**

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## **THIS IS HOW BUSH BRINGS THE TROOPS HOME: BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE**



The casket of Cpl. Joseph Anzack is carried from Rice Mortuary to a horse-drawn carriage for a funeral procession to South High School's football stadium in Torrance, Calif., June 1, 2007, for a public memorial. Anzack, who graduated from South High School in 2005, will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. His unit was ambushed while patrolling south of Baghdad. (AP Photo/Kevork Djansezian)

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## **The Traitors Gates And Odierno Make It Official;**

# **They Will Defy The American People: They Want U.S. Troops To Stay In Iraq Forever**

01 June 2007 By VOA News & By Ann Scott Tyson, Washington Post Staff Writer  
[Excerpts]

**U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Thursday that the United States is looking to a long-term military presence in Iraq similar to its arrangement with South Korea.**

**Gates told reporters in Hawaii that he is thinking of “a mutual agreement” with Iraq in which “some force of Americans . . . is present for a protracted period of time.”**

**Gates said such a long-term U.S. presence would assure allies in the Middle East that the United States will not withdraw from Iraq as it did from Vietnam, “lock, stock and barrel.”**

Lt. Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, who oversees daily military operations in Iraq, supported the idea at a news conference in which he also said U.S. military units are trying to reach cease-fire agreements with Iraqi insurgents.

**Odierno said he sees benefits in maintaining a South Korean-style force in Iraq for years. “I think it’s a great idea,” he said, adding that the Iraqi and U.S. governments would have to make that decision.**

“That would be nothing but helping the Iraqi security forces and the government to continue to stabilize itself, and continue to set itself up for success for years to come, if we were able to do that,” Odierno told Pentagon reporters in a videoconference from Baghdad.

**The comments represented the second time this week that administration officials invoked the American experience in South Korea in citing the need for a long-range U.S. military presence in Iraq.**

**Concerns that U.S. forces might stay for a lengthy period have provoked considerable controversy in the region.**

Yesterday’s statements echoed those by White House press secretary Tony Snow on Wednesday. Snow had sparked quick criticism from Democratic lawmakers and liberal activist groups when he said that President Bush envisions a troop posture in Iraq similar to that in South Korea.

**LIAR  
TROOP-KILLER  
DOMESTIC ENEMY  
UNFIT FOR COMMAND  
UNWORTHY OF OBEDIENCE**



The traitor Gates steps off Air Force One 21 May 2007. (AFP/File/Mandel Ngan)

**Troops Invited:**

**What do you think? Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send email [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org):. Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Replies confidential. Same address to unsubscribe.**

**IRAQ RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

# Assorted Resistance Action

31 May 2007 Reuters & By Fadhil al-Badrani, Reuters & By Sinan Salaheddin, AP & 01 Jun 2007 Reuters & Iraq today & 02 Jun 2007 Reuters & AP

**More than 2,000 people marched the streets in the predominantly Shiite area of Shula in northwestern Baghdad to demand improvements in basic services like electricity and water. The demonstrators denounced the United States, Israel and the U.S.-backed Iraqi government.**

A bomber killed up to 25 men queuing at a police recruitment centre in Fallujah on Thursday, and wounding 50.

Police said the bomber detonated his explosives vest at the third of four checkpoints as he stood among recruits who were lining up to apply for jobs on the force. The center had only been opened on Saturday in a primary school in eastern Fallujah.

The U.S. military and Iraqi army and police were running the center along with members of Anbar Salvation Council, a loose grouping of tribes that have banded together to fight insurgents.

The Falluja suicide bomber, wearing a vest packed with explosives, walked up to a queue of about 150 young recruits as they waited outside a police station and blew himself up, police spokesman Hamid Abid said.

In Ramadi, capital of Anbar, a truck bomber killed five and wounded 15 in an attack on a mobile telephone communications centre.

A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol wounded three policemen in al-Khadhra district in western Baghdad, police said.

Mosul city mortuary received the bodies of three Iraqi soldiers, in the northern city of Mosul, a hospital source said.

A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol wounded four policemen on the road between Sinjar and Tal Afar, 420 km (260 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol killed an officer and wounded another soldier in Tal Afar, police said.

Guerrillas attacked a police commando patrol, killing a policeman and wounding three others in the Jihad district of southwestern Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol in the northern city of Kirkuk wounded five policemen, police said.

Two soldiers and two civilians were wounded in a roadside bomb attack targeting an Iraqi army patrol in Kirkuk, police said.

Two soldiers were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded in Al-Arasa'a district, of Kirkuk, targeting an Iraqi army patrol.

Baqouba, Iraq: Guerrillas in two cars attacked a police station Thursday, killing a police officer and wounding three others.

A car bomber killed two soldiers and two policemen when he attacked a joint Iraqi security checkpoint on Friday in the northern Iraqi town of Shirqat, police said.

A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol in the northern city of Kirkuk wounded five policemen, police said.

Some security force personnel belonging to oil facilities in the area were ambushed by armed men on the main road to the south-west of Kirkuk, which is 290 kilometres north of Baghdad, independent Voices of Iraq news agency reported. The forces were seized and taken to an unknown place, the source said.

## **IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATION**

**Do you have a friend or relative in the service? Forward GI Special along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly. Whether in Iraq or stuck on a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the war, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657**

## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**

**At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation's ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke. For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. Frederick Douglas, 1852**

**"What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms."  
Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787.**

***June 2, 1863: Glorious Anniversary:***  
**“Col. Montgomery And His Gallant Band  
Of 300 Black Soldiers, Under The  
Guidance Of A Black Woman, Dashed  
Into The Enemy’s Country, Struck A Bold  
And Effective Blow, Striking Terror Into  
The Heart Of Rebeldom”**



Harriet Tubman

**It is significant as the only military engagement in American history wherein a woman black or white, “led the raid and under whose inspiration it was originated and conducted”.**

Carl Bunin Peace History May 28-June 3

June 2, 1863

Abolitionist and former slave James Montgomery led 300 African-American troops of the Union’s 2nd South Carolina Volunteers on a raid of plantations along the Combahee River. Meanwhile, backed by three gunboats, Harriet Tubman’s forces set fire to the plantations and freed 750 slaves.

The following dispatch, quoted in part, appeared on the front page of The Commonwealth, a Boston newspaper, on Friday, July 10, 1863:

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**HARRIET TUBMAN**

July 10, 1863:



**Col. Montgomery and his gallant band of 300 black soldiers, under the guidance of a black woman, dashed into the enemy's country, struck a bold and effective blow, destroying millions of dollars worth of commissary stores, cotton and lordly dwellings, and striking terror into the heart of rebeldom, brought off near 800 slaves and thousands of dollars worth of property, without losing a man or receiving a scratch.**

**It was a glorious consummation.**

After they were all fairly well disposed of in the Beaufort charge, they were addressed in strains of thrilling eloquence by their gallant deliverer, to which they responded in a song. "There is a white robe for thee," a song so appropriate and so heartfelt and cordial as to bring unbidden tears.

**The Colonel was followed by a speech from the black woman, who led the raid and under whose inspiration it was originated and conducted.**

For sound sense and real native eloquence, her address would do honor to any man, and it created a great sensation...

Since the rebellion she had devoted herself to her great work of delivering the bondman, with an energy and sagacity that cannot be exceeded. Many and many times she has penetrated the enemy's lines and discovered their situation and condition, and escaped without injury, but not without extreme hazard.

The Combahee River, in South Carolina, was the first one visited by the Spaniards in the year 1520. Vasque de Ayllon, having discovered it, gave it the name "River Jordan."

Although subsequently renamed the Combahee, the stream now became a River Jordan literally for more than seven hundred and fifty Negroes who, under the leadership of Harriet Tubman and the auxiliary command of Colonel James Montgomery, delivered this number of blacks into the free lines.

The River Jordan has been in biblical history a reality, and in modern Negro allusion a symbol of the barrier between bondage and freedom, and it is an interesting coincidence, therefore, that the Combahee campaign should so parallel the ancient situation.

**It is significant as the only military engagement in American history wherein a woman black or white, "led the raid and under whose inspiration it was originated and conducted".**

The N.Y. Tribune " says that the Negro troops at Hilton Head, S.C. will soon start an expedition, under the command of Colonel Montgomery, differing in many respects from any heretofore projected.

**The Combahee strategy was formulated by Harriet Tubman as an outcome of her penetrations of the enemy lines and her belief that the Combahee River countryside was ripe for a successful invasion.**

She was asked by General Hunter "if she would go with several gunboats up the Combahee River, the object of the expedition being to take up the torpedoes placed by the rebels in the river, to destroy railroads and bridges, and to cut off supplies from the rebel troops.

She said she would go if Col. Montgomery was to be appointed commander of the expedition...

Accordingly, Col. Montgomery was appointed to the command, and Harriet, with several men under her, the principal of whom was J. Plowden...accompanied the expedition".

**Actually in this raid it was Montgomery who was the auxiliary leader. The whole venture owed its success to the complete preliminary survey made by Harriet Tubman's espionage troops.**

Captain John F. Lay, the Confederate investigating officer, discussing the movement afterwards, said, "The enemy seems to have been well posted as to the character and capacity of our troops and their small chance of encountering opposition, and to have been well guided by persons thoroughly acquainted with the river and country.

It was a commentary, however indirect, on Harriet's work and the labor of her subordinates.

About ten miles north of Port Royal Island, Harriet's station, was St. Helena Island, and between this island and the mainland of South Carolina was the water known as St. Helena Sound. The Combahee River, a narrow, jagged stream that ran about fifty miles into the interior of the State, began at the Sound: and on its banks were rice fields and marshes.

During the night of June 2, 1863, Harriet and Colonel Montgomery, with a party of about 150 Negro troops in three gunboats, started up the Combahee River. Pickets located at stations near the mouth of the stream spotted the oncoming boats and dispatched word to the Confederate commander, Major Emanuel, located deeper inland at Green Pond...

Every plantation on both sides of the river was aroused; the Union soldiers, in small detachments, raced from one to another, creating a general devastation of the zone.

In the Combahee Ferry region the Blake, Lowndes, Middleton and Heyward plantations were in ruins. The Negroes fled to the gunboats and the slavemasters skedaddled inland. The bridge at Combahee Ferry was burning too "but not badly.

As the gunboats passed up the river, the Negroes left their work and took to the woods, for at first they were frightened.

Then they came out to peer, "like startled deer." But scudding away like the wind at the sound of the steam-whistle.

**The word was passed along that these were "Lincoln's gunboats come to set them free."**

**From that moment on, the overseers used their whips in vain, for they failed to drive the slaves back to the quarters.**

They turned and ran for the gun-boats; they came down every road, across every field, dressed just as they were when they left their work and their cabins.

There were women with children clinging around their necks, hanging onto their dresses, or running behind, but all rushed at full speed for "Lincoln's gun-boats."

Hundreds crowded the banks, with their hands extended toward their deliverers, and most of them were taken aboard the gun-boats to be carried to Beaufort.

This is about what happened all through the night and morning of June 2 when Harriet, Montgomery and the colored soldiers overran the Combahee.

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## **OCCUPATION REPORT**

# **60% Of Iraqis Want U.S. Troops Dead: [Big Surprise] More Iraqis Killed For Sleeping On The Roof**



The ruins of a destroyed house after an attack by foreign occupation soldiers from the USA in Sadr city, Baghdad early May 30, 2007.

**During the raid 2 civilians were killed and 4 others wounded as they were sleeping on roofs of their houses the police said [and not for the first time; this method of butchering civilians has been practiced over and over and over.] Also two other civilians were arrested in the operation. (AP Photo/Karim Kadim)**

**[U.S. sponsored polls reported recently that 60% of Iraqis favor killing U.S. troops. After reading this, it would take a drooling idiot not to understand why. Iraqis feel about U.S. troops trampling them in the dirt the same way Americans felt about British troops trampling them in the dirt in 1776. They are right to resist. T]**

**OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION  
BRING ALL THE TROOPS HOME NOW!**

**Baghdad Residents Say The  
Electricity Problem Has Never  
Been This Bad;  
“Unrelenting Insurgent Attacks On  
Electricity Pylons, Power Stations,  
Government Workers And Fuel  
Deliveries”  
“Near-Collapse Of The System”**

May. 31, 2007 By RAVI NESSMAN - Associated Press Writer [Excerpts]

With Baghdad's electricity network in tatters after years of corruption, neglect and attacks, a thriving black market in power has sprung up across the capital. In nearly every neighborhood, multicolored bundles of wires flow from private generators that have all but replaced the national power grid.

Power shortages in the capital have been a persistent complaint since the U.S.-led invasion more than four years ago.

But Baghdad residents say the problem has never been this bad - not under crippling U.N. sanctions during Saddam Hussein's reign and not even during the opening rounds of the war in 2003.

**Iraqi officials blame unrelenting insurgent attacks on electricity pylons, power stations, government workers and fuel deliveries for the near-collapse of the system.**

The United States also blames corruption for the problems. An estimated \$2 billion has disappeared from funds to rebuild Iraq's electricity infrastructure.

Iraq's 27 million people need 9,000 megawatts of power daily to meet their minimum requirements. In the United States, that's enough for between 2.5 million and nearly 4 million homes depending on consumption patterns.

A U.S. Government Accountability Office study released this month said Iraq was getting less than half that - only 3,803 megawatts - at the end of February.

The U.S. government had hoped Iraqis would receive 12 hours of electricity a day by the end of 2006, but by the end of February they averaged only 8.6 hours of power and Baghdad was getting just over five, the GAO report said.

The situation in the capital has grown far worse since then.

**Electricity Minister Karim Waheed said insurgents struck the network feeding the capital from the north and the south about two weeks ago, cutting the city off from the national grid. Electricity officials say the power flow is so erratic, they don't know how much power is making it to the capital.**

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